

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology has initiated the Mines Medal as South Dakota's premier award to an engineer or scientist as a means to recognize outstanding national and international achievement in science, engineering, or technological challenges that impact society; and,

*Whereas*, Dr. Cindy Lee Van Dover is being recognized for her seminal research discovery and characterization of a geothermal source of light at deep-sea hydrothermal vents and the isolation of obligate photosynthetic organisms living on the seafloor, leading to a new view of the potential for life elsewhere in the universe, as well as a new appreciation for previously unrecognized modes of photosynthetic life in both the deep sea and midwaters on this planet; and,

*Whereas*, Dr. Van Dover has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and communicated her discoveries to the non-scientific population through magazine articles, radio, television, a pod cast series detailing an ocean-borne expedition to Antarctica, and her autobiographical book, *The Octopus's Garden*; and,

*Whereas*, Dr. Van Dover is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the American Geophysical Union, the Oceanographic Society, and is a co-founder of an international steering committee of the Chemosynthetic Ecosystems component (ChEss) of the Census of Marine Life; and,

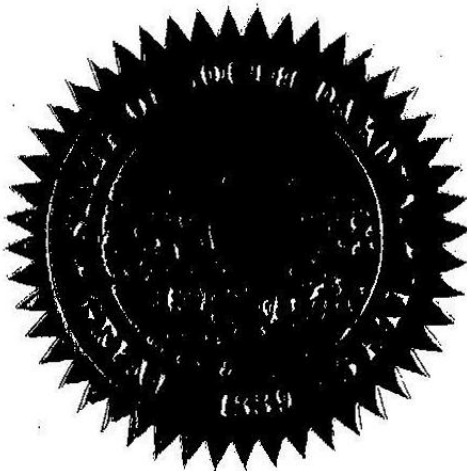
*Whereas*, Dr. Van Dover's knowledge will lead to increasing technological capabilities and the advancement of the field of deep sea science as a frontier of biological and geological exploration, for its potential to provide solutions to environmental problems, and to meet sociopolitical needs for metals and other resources:

*Whereas*, It is fitting and proper that the Governor of the state of South Dakota recognize Dr. Van Dover as the first recipient of the Mines Medal to be presented on October 14, 2009, at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City, South Dakota:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2009, as

### *DR. CINDY LEE VAN DOVER DAY*


in South Dakota, and I join her family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating her on this special occasion and her commitment to the advancement of science.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-ninth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State